

REMARKS

This application pertains to a novel method and apparatus for injecting gasification medium into particle-laden gasification spaces of fixed-bed, fluidized-bed or entrained-bed gasifiers by one-component nozzles.

Claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 10 are pending; claim 3 being canceled by this amendment. The limitations of claim 3 have been added to claim 1.

Claims 1, 2 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Gernhardt et al (US 4,043,766).

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 3-5 and 7 would be allowable if presented in independent form (there is no '112 rejection pending). In a determined effort to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants have added the limitations of claim 3 to claim 1, thereby making claim 1 an independent form of claim 3. Claim 1, as amended, is therefore believed to now be in condition for allowance. Inasmuch as claims 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7 all depend from claim 1, and therefore incorporate the same limitations as claim 1, they too are believed to be in condition for allowance.

It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection of Claims 1, 2 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Gernhardt et al (US 4,043,766) be withdrawn, and that claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7 be allowed.

Claims 1 and 8-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Zinn (US 3,302,596).

That portion of the rejection that applies to claim 1 is believed to have been obviated by the addition of the limitations of claim 3 to claim 1, as discussed above.

Claim 8, on the other hand, has now been amended to limit the scope thereof to

the embodiments wherein the diameter at the beginning of the acceleration portion (7) is smaller than the diameter of the supply portion (5). See the ramp in the transition between the supply portion (5) and the acceleration portion (7) as illustrated in Fig. 1. The beginning of the acceleration portion of Zinn is not smaller than the diameter of the supply portion, and there is nothing in Zinn to suggest that it even could be.

It is therefore believed that the amendment to claim 8 obviates the rejection as applied to claims 8 and 10.

The rejection of claims 1 and 8-10 stand under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Zinn (US 3,302,596) should accordingly now be withdrawn.

In view of the present amendments and remarks it is believed that claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 10 are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of said claims by the Examiner is respectfully requested and the allowance thereof is courteously solicited. Should the Examiner not deem the present amendment and remarks to place the instant claims in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment Under Rule 116 be entered for the purpose of placing the prosecution record in better condition for appeal.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

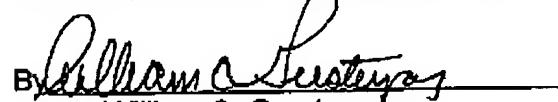
If any extension of time for this response is required, Applicants request that this be considered a petition therefor. Please charge the required petition fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fee or credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully submitted,

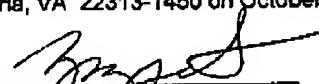
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile, no. 571-273-8300 to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 26, 2005.

By 
Zsuzsa Schuster
Date October 26, 2005